

## PROCLAMATION **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY** OCTOBER 9, 2003

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of North Dakota stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs because these programs:

- Stimulate children's imaginations and enrich their lives;
- Provide a safe, friendly learning environment for our children that boosts their academic achievement;
- Support working families by ensuring that their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;
- Encourage families to become more effective partners in their children's education;
- Build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our children; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our children, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool education programs are a critical link to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, Lights on Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs on October 9, promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 9, 2003, as **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State